

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of this application as amended. Claims 1-19 are pending in the application. Claims 1, and 9-12 have been amended. Claims 4 and 15 have been cancelled.

The Examiner rejected claim 10 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Satoh et al (U.S. 6,895,120).

Applicant respectfully disagrees. Claim 10 as amended sets forth that the coding unit decodes a codestream encoded by an image processing unit as claimed in claim 1 into a size-adjusted image, where the information related to the size of the image before the size adjustment is made is attached to the codestream. Applicant respectfully submits that this feature is not shown in Satoh.

Satoh discloses a coding scheme in which images are divided into tiles that coded separately. While Satoh does disclose the use of the JPEG2000 decoding standard, there is no disclosure that sets forth the information related to the size of the image prior to size adjustment is attached to the codestream. This feature is already included in other dependent claims. Therefore, no new matter has been added. In view of this, Applicant respectfully submits that the present invention as claimed in claim 10 is not anticipated by Satoh.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) has been overcome by the amendments and the remarks. Applicant submits that claim 10 as amended are now in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited.

The Examiner rejected claim 1-9 and 11-19 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chui et al (U.S. 6,904,176) in view of Murao (U.S. 6,141,452)..

Applicant respectfully disagrees. Claim 1 as amended, as well as claim 9, requires the attachment, to the codestream, of information related to the size of the image before the image has its size adjusted. Claim 1 as amended is as follows:

An image processing apparatus, comprising:
a size adjusting unit to, if an image is not evenly divisible into a number of fixed size regions that are equivalently sized, adjust the size of the image at a stage in an encoding process to form a size-adjusted image so that the size-adjusted image becomes evenly divisible into the regions;
an encoding unit to encode the size-adjusted image by the regions into a codestream; and
an information attaching unit to attach, to the codestream, information related to the size of the image before the adjustment of size. (emphasis added)

As set forth above, claim 1 requires an attaching information unit to attach, to the codestream, information related to the size of the image before the size adjustment. This feature is in dependent claim 4 and similarly added to claims 9, 11 and 12. Note that this limitation, which was added to claim 12, was originally in claim 15. Applicant respectfully submits this feature is not disclosed in Chui or Murao.

Chui discloses a encoding into decoding scheme in which selected regions of interest may be encoded and decoded lawlessly using data reuse. Chui does disclose a size-adjusted image and a compressed bitstream, but does not disclose the attachment of information related to the size of the image prior to size adjustment. Murao does not overcome this deficiency. That is, Murao does not disclose an image attaching unit to attach information related to the size of an image before the adjustment of size. Therefore, the combination of Chui and Murao do not disclose all the limitations of the claims as amended.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that the rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) has been overcome by the amendments and the remarks. Applicant submits that claim 1-9 and 11-19 as amended are now in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that the objections to the claims and the abstract have been overcome by the amendments and the remarks and withdrawal of these rejections is respectfully requested. Applicants submit that Claims 1-19 as amended are in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited.

If there are any additional charges, please charge Deposit Account No. 02-2666 for any fee deficiency that may be due.

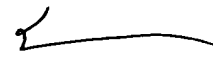
Respectfully submitted,

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